

**Nicole E. Alessi, O.D.**

**Collins Vision**  
**6900 International Center Blvd.**  
**Fort Myers, FL 33912**  
**Tel: (239) 936-4706**  
**Fax: (239) 225-6775**

[www.CollinsVision.com](http://www.CollinsVision.com)

**EDUCATION:**

**Doctor of Optometry:** Nova Southeastern University College of Optometry.  
With Honors  
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida  
May 2010

**Bachelor of Sciences:** Nova Southeastern University.  
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida  
May 2008

**Bachelor of Sciences:** University of Florida.  
Magna Cum Laude  
Gainesville, Florida  
May 2005

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:**

**Collins Vision**, Fort Myers, FL Mar 2013 –Present

- Highly skilled in the early detection of macular degeneration, glaucoma, and systemic diseases such as diabetes and high blood pressure. Experienced with low vision and geriatrics.

**Community Eye Center**, Port Charlette, FL Sept 2011 –Mar 2013

- A primary care position with emphasis on co-management of anterior and posterior segment disease, and surgical cataract patients. Successfully implemented a self-sustaining monthly low vision clinic.

**Residency**

- **Nova Southeastern University Primary Care with emphasis in Low Vision/Geriatrics** July 2010- July 2011

A one-year post-graduate position completed with emphasis on evaluation and management of the low vision and geriatric population. Significant experience was gained in the diagnosis and management of anterior and posterior segment disease including the use therapeutic medications for the management of ocular

infections, inflammations, and glaucoma. Gained proficiency in fitting and prescribing vision rehabilitative devices including hand and stand magnifiers, microscopes, telescopes, and electronic devices. Worked in a multidisciplinary approach to coordinate care that included Osteopathy, Audiology, Psychology, PT, OT, and VTI. Expanded familiarity with the use of advanced diagnostic procedures including ultrasonography, fluorescein angiography, ERG and PERG, microperimetry, and spectral domain OCT, measurement of macular pigment density and specialized colovision testing including the Farnsworth Lantern and D-15 and D-100. Clinical rotations included Neuro-ophthalmology, Vitreo-Retinal Service, Diabetes and Macula Service, Emergency On-Call, and Glaucoma Service.

### **Externship Experience**

- **VA, Salisbury NC** Feb 2010 – April 2010  
Completed a hospital based ocular disease management externship in the VA system of North Carolina. Managed a variety of anterior and posterior segment disease, low vision and traumatic brain injury patients. Gained experience administering fluorescein angiographies and interpreting results. Excelled in teleretinal image reading. Gained proficiency in a variety of imaging devices including anterior and posterior segment camera, and anterior and posterior segment cirrus OCT.
- **Easton Eye Care** Nov 2009 – Feb 2010  
Gained experience under Robert Easton, OD, FAAO, PA. Experience focused primarily in private practice patient relationships. Broad contact lens experience was gained with emphasis on presbyopia options. Managed ocular disease of both anterior and posterior segment, particularly dry eye, SLK, infection, Glaucoma, and AMD.

### **Nova Southeastern University College of Optometry:**

- **North Miami/Davie Specialty Contact Lens** Oct 2009 – Nov 2009  
Excelled in fitting patients with soft lenses (sphere and toric), and RGP lenses (sphere, bitoric, and front toric lenses). Extensively fit Keratoconus patients and other specialty fits including the use of large diameter lenses, reverse geometry lenses, mini scleral lenses, etc.
- **Broward Specialty Pediatrics** Aug 2009 – Sept 2009  
Experience gained assessing and managing strabismus, amblyopia, accommodative and vergence anomalies, and nystagmus. Performed and assessed Visual Perceptual evaluations and carried out treatment plans. Administered vision therapy, progress re-evaluations and examinations on children aged 6 months – 18 years.
- **Broward Primary Care** May 2009 – Aug 2009  
Primary Care management of anterior and posterior segment disease in all stages of advancement as well as CL management. Excelled in management of Diabetic and Hypertensive Retinopathy and Glaucoma. Extensive experience administering and evaluating OCT, HRT, Humphrey VF.

- **Davie Primary Care** June 2008 – May 2009  
Experience was gained in the management of primary eye care, including anterior and posterior segment disease, emergency eye care, and neurological eye disease.
- **Davie Glaucoma Service** August 2008 – October 2008  
Evaluated and managed disease ranging from suspect to advanced glaucoma. Analyzed 3-D intraocular photography, GDx, Gonioscopy, OCT, HRT, and Humphrey Visual Field.

## **SPECIALTY CERTIFICATIONS**

- Advanced Management Program: Professional Certificate NSU May 2009
- Bauch & Lomb: Vision Shaping Treatment Design Certification (CRT) May 2009
- Vision Care Institute: Specialty Contact Lens Training Seminar June 2008

## **HONORS AND AWARDS**

### **Nova Southeastern**

- Eschenbach Award of Excellence in Low Vision 2010
- VSP Scholarship award for Excellence in the pursuit of Primary Care Skills 2009
- Beta Sigma Kappa National Honor Fraternity
- Dean's list all semesters; required A average

## **PRESENTATIONS**

- Rapid Vision Loss Rapid Vision Loss Secondary to Late Onset Pigmentary Retinal Dystrophy. Jennifer L. Hill, OD, Sherrol A. Reynolds, OD, Nicole E. Alessi, OD, Arnie Patrick, OD. Poster Presentation American Optometric Association June 2011.
- Alessi, Nicole E. O.D. and Michael Derhodge O.D. Complete Diagnosis and Management of Stargardts Disease. Rapid Fire Grand Rounds, Nova Southeastern University. January 2011.
- Alessi, Nicole E. O.D. Occlusive Events in Sickle Cell Trait; Rapid Fire Grand Rounds. Nova Southeastern University. October 2010.
- Alessi N, Duncan M, Gordon N, Nguyen J, Steg M. "Opening Eyes...One Classroom at a time." Scientific poster presentation at Florida Optometric Association annual convention. June 10-13, 2008. Naples, Florida.

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

- American Optometric Association
- American Academy of Optometry
- Florida Optometric Association

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

- **University of Florida**

- **Phi Sigma Pi National Honor Fraternity**

- 2002-2005. Dance Marathon for Children's Miracle Network. 4-year dancer, helped to raise over \$200,000 over four years.

- 2004 – 2005. Chairman of Service: Coordinated the organization's involvement in monthly dinners for the homeless at St. Francis House, Relay for Life, tutoring at local elementary schools, and three 5K runs to benefit Teach for America and Children's Miracle Network. Helped organize Get SLAM'D, a national event to promote scholarship, leadership and motivational development.

- 2003 - 2004. Chairman of Scholarship: Organized events with local elementary school and Teach for America, coordinated read-a-thons and fundraisers to promote literacy in school aged children.